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Embassy

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3. Ambassador Bunker Completes Third Trip to Saudi Arabia. Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker. In his third series of meetings with Prince Faysal, felt that progress toward agreement on implementation of Yemen withdrawal proposals had been made. He returned to Cairo April 8 for further discussions with President Nasir. SECRET

4. December Defectors Sentenced. On April 4, the press announced that a military court had sentenced in absentia the Saudi Air Force men who defected to Cairo in December. Rashid Shisha was sentenced to death and his four colleagues to prison terms. UNCLASSIFIED

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MILITARY

Negative.

PSYCHOLOGICAL

I. Hawk Missiles. Saudi Radio, April 3, announced discussions between Israeli Deputy Minister of Defense, Perez, and Washington officials regarding the sale of Hawk missiles to Israel and the possibility of training Israeli military personnel in their use in the United States. Al Bilad, April 5, front-paged Kennedy announcement in Washington press conference "that US will supply Israel with arms if necessary to maintain the balance of power in the Middle East." To date, no editorial comment. Press and radio coverage based on news items carried UPI. (UNCLASSIFIED)

For the Ambassador:

Nicholas G. Thacher

Nicholas G. Thacher
Counselor of Embassy

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